

district who flew up on the Emerald Coast Honor Flight.

If present, I would have voted: Rollcall vote No. 227, Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 5522—Worker Protection Against Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Act, “nay”; Rollcall vote No. 228, Rule for H.R. 5522—Worker Protection Against Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Act, “nay.”

**CORSON BUILDING RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY—FITTING TRIBUTE TO TONY AND CHRISTOPHER SOUZA**

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2008*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, on May 16 there will be a very important event in New Bedford, Massachusetts: the ribbon cutting for the newly renovated Corson Building, which will be dedicated on that date as a key component of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Visitors Center.

I look forward to being joined at the ceremony by my colleague Senator EDWARD KENNEDY and many other people who have played an active role in both the initial establishment of the National Park and in the preservation and restoration of the Corson Building, an important historical structure which was nearly destroyed by fire in 1997. Through a combination of Federal, State and local government financing, along with non-profit funds and efforts, the building, now attached to the existing Visitors Center, will serve as a major educational facility with valuable public meeting space that will be available for both National Park programs and community meetings.

Among those who will be recognized at the celebration on May 16 for their efforts in making the Corson project a reality, there is one individual whose contributions over the years were crucial and deserve special mention. I speak of New Bedford native Tony Souza, who was the long-time Executive Director of the Waterfront Historic Area League, WHALE, the city's leading historic preservation organization.

While Tony and his wife Elsie (who did great work as the Deputy District Director of my Congressional office) moved a couple of years ago to Florida to pursue other opportunities, it is his vision for both the National Park and the Corson Building that we will to a large extent be honoring at the ribbon cutting event. A little known aspect of Tony's efforts to restore the Corson Building and convert it into an educational facility is that he took much of his inspiration for that work from his late son, Christopher Souza, who had been a member of Senator KENNEDY's staff.

Chris, who shared his parents' commitment to both improving New Bedford and preserving its wonderful historical legacy, sadly passed away at the age of 26 in 1994. This was of course a tragic loss for his family, but it was also a loss to the broader community because we were deprived of the talents of a young man who had chosen to dedicate himself to public service. Despite his grief over his son's passing, Tony gave some thought to steps he might take to honor Chris as an individual and

also as someone who exemplified the next generation of young leaders. This consideration led ultimately to the idea of establishing the Corson Building, once it was rebuilt, as a facility with a primary focus on education, so that it could, among other purposes, play a key role in helping tell the young people of New Bedford the remarkable history of their city.

Like many complicated projects involving older structures and various levels of government—not to mention both the vagaries of the Congressional appropriations process and the National Park Service's property management regulations—getting the Corson Building to where it is today involved a slow series of steps with numerous detours. Along the way, it was necessary to stabilize the building after the fire; develop the necessary design for the renovation; and begin to assemble the requisite funds, all of which took time. Tony was consistently the driving force behind the efforts to overcome the obstacles that emerged, and I know that his desire to see the project completed was to a large extent a reflection of his love for his son. Indeed, he only decided to seek new challenges outside Massachusetts when it was clear that his vision for the project was well on its way toward completion.

So, the Corson Building ribbon cutting ceremony will be both a physical and a much more personal homecoming for Tony and Elsie. I join with Senator KENNEDY, and the elected officials, National Park Service representatives and area preservation activists and residents who will also be attending the event, in paying tribute to Tony Souza's vital contributions to this important accomplishment, and to his son Christopher, who was such an important inspiration for his father's work on the project.

IN HONOR OF CEIL CIRILLO

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2008*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an invaluable member of the Santa Cruz community. After two decades of service, Ceil Cirillo has announced her retirement from her post as director of Redevelopment/Economic Development for the City of Santa Cruz. Ceil began her work in the Santa Cruz community after numerous buildings and homes had been destroyed in the Loma Pieta earthquake of 1989. As a part of her work as a director, Ceil acquired the challenge of reconstructing a devastated historic downtown Santa Cruz. Her success is evident today by the vibrant destination for shopping and dining that Pacific Avenue is today. Yet this endeavor was only the beginning of her accomplishments and contributions that continue to benefit the Santa Cruz community.

To rebuild the commerce affected by the quake, Ceil oversaw local building expansion. Under her direction, the agency created a new department for the redevelopment of downtown, as well as a business outreach program to ensure commercial success both downtown and citywide.

Ceil's humanitarian efforts made a great impact on Santa Cruz citizens who needed help the most. One of these accomplishments was overseeing the construction of low-rent units;

providing housing for families with limited incomes. She also facilitated the installment of emergency housing units, 26 of which are in their planning stages or already under construction. These projects, along with others, have resulted in 407,000 square feet of newly available housing; placing roofs over the heads of those who would otherwise have no place to call home.

In her reconstruction aid, Ceil has not let her artistic side go but rather channeled her passion for the arts in her efforts. She is keen on preserving and cultivating the rich culture of the community, and instituted the Tannery Arts Center and Pacific Avenue Multi-Modal Station, which today serve as outlets for local artists. In addition, in the unique spirit of Santa Cruz, she instated commercial facade projects, murals, landscaping and similar projects all over the city. These public artworks give significant aesthetic appeal to a city that had once been reduced to shambles.

Prior to coming to Santa Cruz, Ceil was the Director of Redevelopment for the City of Signal Hill, California, and in addition to some private sector employment, was a Special Assistant to the City Manager in Pasadena, California. She has received numerous awards in recognition of her works in the Santa Cruz community and has served on the Board of Directors of several local charities.

Madam Speaker, the City of Santa Cruz will miss Ceil's vision and leadership, but there is no doubt that she has left the City in a better place from when she first arrived. I wish Ceil the best in retirement and look forward to her continued involvement in the Santa Cruz community.

WAMU 88.5'S RAY DAVIS CELEBRATES 60 YEARS ON THE AIR

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2008*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, Ray Davis, host of The Ray Davis Show on WAMU's Bluegrass Country, celebrates 60 years in broadcasting on May 2. Ray Davis joined WAMU 88.5 in 1985 to host Saturday Bluegrass, and shared hosting duties for the weekday afternoon program, Bluegrass Country, until 2001. He currently hosts 3 live hours of traditional bluegrass music on The Ray Davis Show at 3 p.m., weekdays, and 10 a.m., Sundays, on WAMU's Bluegrass Country, heard in Washington, DC, in HD Radio at 88.5, Channel 2, and online at bluegrasscountry.org.

Davis provides area bluegrass fans and online listeners worldwide with a daily dose of the traditional American art form, from prison songs and “plum pitiful” tunes to the great train rides—and train wrecks—of bluegrass music, all delivered with Davis' encyclopedic knowledge of the artists and the music. More than a DJ, Ray Davis is both a musicologist and an archivist who takes listeners on a stroll down bluegrass music's memory lane. His specialties, the plum pitiful tunes, are tearjerkers that explore universal themes of death, betrayal, and jealousy.

“Ray Davis is a legend in music broadcasting. He has helped define bluegrass music on-air since its earliest days as a discrete genre, and has placed a lasting imprint on it

with his dedication to playing, promoting, and recording its musicians," said Caryn G. Mathes, WAMU 88.5's General Manager. "His booming, resonant voice is synonymous with the sound of bluegrass at WAMU, and his willingness to explore broadcasting on multiple new media platforms as radio evolves has been an inspiration to me."

Davis began his radio career at the age of 15, when he left his boyhood home in Wango, MD, for a job at WDOV-AM in Dover, DE. He had jobs at other small town stations around the country, as well as a stint south of the border at XERF, the Mexican mail-order station that made Wolfman Jack famous, where he learned to be a radio pitchman. Davis returned to the east coast and spent 38 years hosting a popular bluegrass program from Johnny's Used Cars for WBMD in Baltimore, MD. In 1962, he began recording some of the Nation's finest bluegrass musicians and selling these recordings under his own label, Wango.

Davis hosts bluegrass festivals and concerts around the country, including the Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival, and the Arcadia Music Festival. He also produces 15 hours of bluegrass music each week for WAMU's Bluegrass Country. When he's not acting as program host or concert emcee, chances are Davis is holed up in his basement studio producing CDs from hundreds of bluegrass tapes he's recorded over the years. Since the 1960s, Davis has been enlisting friends like Carter and Ralph Stanley, Don Reno, Bill Harrell, the Warrior River Boys, the Gillis Brothers, Owen Saunders, and a host of others to make his so-called "basement tapes." The basement tapes include previously unreleased jam sessions with many of these legendary bluegrass artists.

American University's radio station since 1961, WAMU 88.5 is the leading public radio station for NPR news and information in the greater Washington, DC, area with more than 650,000 listeners in the region. WAMU 88.5 is "your NPR news station in the Nation's capital."

#### HONORING OUR COMMITMENT TO FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VET- ERANS

##### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I stand before you this evening to discuss the plight of some 20,000 brave men who defended our country during World War II but have been neglected in their old age. I refer to the Filipino nationals who fought with American soldiers as part of the Recognized Guerilla Forces.

Madam Speaker, the sacrifice and suffering of these brave warriors has been well-documented. Without their support, some say, American forces likely would have been outmanned and outgunned at many of the decisive battles in the Pacific Theater during World War II. But because of an unfair designation set into law, our government treats one class of Filipino veteran differently than another.

In the days and months following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, more than 250,000 Filipino nationals swore allegiance to

the United States of America with the same oath each of us took when we became Members of this body. They fought side-by-side with our fathers and grandfathers and suffered casualties at a far higher rate than native-born American forces. In return, the Filipino soldiers were promised the same benefits and support as their American counterparts. In fact, in October of 1945, Gen. Omar Bradley, then Administrator of the Veterans Administration, reaffirmed that they would be treated like any other veterans.

But The Rescission Acts of 1946 changed that. As happens all too often in the halls of power, short-sighted political expediency won out over fairness and common decency. Faced with massive war debts, Congress excluded a class of veteran that had no voice and no vote. Since then, piecemeal attempts have been made to rectify the inequities of The Rescission Acts, but time is clearly working against us.

Today, the few Filipino veterans who are still living are in their eighties. Their number is estimated to be at or around 20,000, with 7,000 living in the United States. Many of those veterans reside in my district, which boasts the largest number of Filipino Americans in the nation.

Madam Speaker, I am not asking for special consideration. I am not seeking an earmark or a windfall or a handout. I am simply asking that we, as a nation, honor the promise we made to the brave souls who put their very lives on the line for the sake of America and all it stands for. Let us show our gratitude to the few remaining Filipino World War II veterans and restore the benefits due them and promised to them when they, like all of us here, raised their right hands and swore: I do solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. REBECCA MILLS

##### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor Dr. Rebecca Mills, Ed.D by entering her name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Dr. Rebecca Mills for her service to the students at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and would like to commend her for her dedication and commitment to higher education.

Receiving her doctorate in secondary education, Rebecca attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. After receiving her doctorate degree, she joined the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1987 as an assistant professor in the Department of Instructional and Curricular Studies. She would later become associate professor and then a full professor within the College of Education.

In 1998, she was appointed to the position of Senior Advisor to the President of the University, serving for two years before being named the Interim Vice President for Student Life in April 2001, where she served until her retirement in 2008. In this role, Rebecca

worked with over 400 individuals to provide services and programs that support out-of-classroom learning for UNLV's more than 27,000 students.

Rebecca has published and presented nationally on such topics as organizational change, middle level education, teacher beliefs, and teacher development. She has also been featured in the National Forum of Teacher Education Journal and the National Forum of Applied Educational Research Journal. She is a recipient of several teaching awards including the Carnegie Foundation's Nevada Professor of the Year. She is active in the National Association of the Student Personnel Administrators (NASOA) serving Region V as the Public Policy Coordinator. She also belongs to the Association of College Personnel Administrators (ACPA) and has presented at several conferences.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Rebecca Mills, Ed.D for her accomplishments at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and applaud her for her contributions and dedication to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

#### HONORING TAIWAN'S OUTGOING PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN AND VICE-PRESIDENT ANNETTE LU

##### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Taiwan's outgoing President Chen Shui-Bian and Vice-President Annette Lu.

Chen Shui-Bian and Annette Lu became Taiwan's second elected President and Vice-President in the year 2000. Perhaps more importantly, however, their election signified the first peaceful transfer of power from the Chinese Nationalist Party or Kuomintang—which had imposed martial law and ruled Taiwan for over a half-century.

In many ways, President Chen and Vice-President Lu's rise to the highest offices in the country is, itself, the story of Taiwan.

President Chen and Vice-President Lu's paths crossed for the first time among difficult circumstances. Ms. Lu was facing sedition charges for her work on the staff of Formosa Magazine, which had been critical of the Kuomintang dictatorship. Chen Shui-Bian, a young lawyer at the time, was a member of her defense team.

Ms. Lu was ultimately convicted and spent more than five years in prison, but the sentence failed to break her will or extinguish her passion for bringing democracy to Taiwan.

Mr. Chen lost the case, but he was won over by his clients' ideals. The defendants and their lawyers subsequently became the core of the democratic opposition in Taiwan. And Mr. Chen too, would spend time in jail for his political beliefs.

But the democratic movement they helped to spark would ultimately triumph. Martial law was lifted in 1987, and by 1996 then-President Lee Teng-Hui had initiated democratic reforms that allowed for the direct election of Taiwan's President and Vice-President.

After the lifting of martial law in Taiwan, Mr. Chen became a member of the Taipei municipal council, and after the birth of multi-party